

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 EA-06 IO-04 ISO-00 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-05

INT-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 RSC-01 SAM-01

SCI-02 SP-02 SS-20 STR-01 TRSE-00 FRB-01 FEA-01 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 /096 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/FSE:RMARTIN/DWILSON

APPROVED BY EB - THOMAS O. ENDERS

EB/ORF - JLKATZ

EUR/IB - JMSMITH

EUR/RPE - LEVINE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226057

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM - PORTUGAL
REF: A) STATE 222266; B) BRUSSELS 7300

1. AS NOTED REF A, US IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BRIEFING SPAIN AND PORTUGAL ON STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ENERGY AGENCY TO RUN IEP AND FOR SEEKING THEIR SUPPORT FOR OECD COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE NEW AGENCY WITHIN OECD FRAMEWORK.

2. ECG HAS AGREED THAT THOSE OECD COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED IN ECG ACTIVITIES WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR IEP MEMBERSHIP IF WILLING AND ABLE TO ACCEPT ALL OF THE OBLIGATIONS WHICH MEMBERSHIP ENTAILS (WHICH ARE SUMMARIZED IN REF A). A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN THIS CATEGORY SUCH AS SPAIN, SWITZERLAND AND SWEDEN HAVE SOUGHT PERIODIC BRIEFINGS IN ORDER TO KEEP ABREAST OF ECG ACTIVITIES AND COMPLEX NEGOTIATIONS ON IEP AND HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN POSSIBLY BECOMING CHARTER MEMBERS OF NEW AGENCY. THUS FAR WE HAVE HAD NO INDICATION OF PORTUGUESE INTEREST IN THE PROGRAM. THE EXTREMELY TIGHT TIMETABLE FOR FINAL APPROVAL AND ENTRY INTO FORCE OF IEP WHICH CALLS FOR FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF DRAFT AGREEMENT NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 29 WOULD APPEAR TO EFFECTIVELY PRECLUDE PORTUGUESE ACCESSION AS CHARTER MEMBER. PORTUGAL, IF IT DESIRED, COULD OF COURSE BECOME MEMBER AT SOME LATER DATE.

3. DRAWING ON ABOVE INFORMATION AND BACKGROUND CONTAINED REF A, EMBASSY SHOULD REVIEW WITH APPROPRIATE GOP OFFICIALS BASIC ELEMENTS OF IEP. YOU SHOULD EXPRESS EMBASSY'S WILLINGNESS AS WELL AS THAT OF DEPT AND USOECD; IF APPROPRIATE, TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND
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INFORMATION PORTUGUESE MAY NEED. FYI: SINCE PORTUGAL HAS EXPRESSED NO INTEREST TO DATE IN ECG WORK, WE ASSUME GOP DOES NOT INTEND TO COME IN AS CHARTER MEMBER OF IEP. IN VIEW TIGHT TIMETABLE ESTABLISHED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM, YOU SHOULD NOT RPT NOT ENCOURAGE PORTUGUESE MEMBERSHIP AT THIS POINT. HOWEVER IN DISCUSSING PROGRAM GENERALLY YOU MAY NOTE THAT IT WILL REMAIN OPEN TO ALL OECD COUNTRIES WILLING AND ABLE TO MEET IEP OBLIGATIONS.

END FYI. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO EXPLAIN THAT ECG COUNTRIES WILL BE SUBMITTING TO OECD COUNCIL BY MID-NOVEMBER PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH NEW ENERGY AGENCY WITHIN OECD FRAMEWORK AND EXPRESS OUR STRONG HOPE THAT GOP WILL SUPPORT THE DRAFT DECISION. IN SOLICITING FAVORABLE PORTUGUESE VOTE YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT OECD DECISION IS ONLY TO SET UP NEW AGENCY WITHIN ITS FRAMEWORK AND INVOLVES NO FINANCIAL OR OTHER COMMITMENT BY THOSE COUNTRIES NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM. INFORM DEPT OF RESULTS YOUR CONVERSATION.

4. DEPT PLANS BRIEF PORTUGUESE EMBASSY HERE ALONG THOSE LINES AND WILL KEEP EMBASSY LISBON INFORMED. INGERSOLL

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